

Meeting Location: Academy of Career Exploration, 155 Harrison Street, Providence, RI 02907

Date & Time: May 10th, 2016, 4:30 pm

Directors Present: Victor Fay-Wolfe, Phd, Carmen Ferguson, Marion Hague, Michael Jarrett, Nicky

Nichtern, Ela Silva, Dr. Mario Cirillo, Alan Neville, Jane Nugent

Others Present: Susan Ahlstrom, Luke Driver, and Vanessa Toledo-Vickers, ACE

Alex Chiulli, Barton Gilman, LLC, Randy Dittmar and Roger Ray, Dittmar and

Ferrolito, LLC, Tim Hebert, Atrion

Directors Absent: Kerry Altman, Laurie Devlin, Yubelkis Hernandez, Jennifer Pierce, Lena Sanchez,

Jamie Scurry, Phil Zarlengo

Presiding Officer: Marion Hague and Carmen Ferguson

I. Call to Order

Board Co-Chair Marion Hague called the meeting to order at 4:36pm.

II. Roll Call

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Chair's Opening Remarks

There were no remarks.

V. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Mr. Jarrett moved and Ms. Nichtern seconded a motion to approve the April 12th meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote of all members present.

VI. Atrion's adoption of the Academy for Career Exploration and MOU

Mr. Hebert distributed a short presentation about the ACE/Atrion Partnership and spoke about how he fell in love with the school when he visited as a guest speaker. He spoke about how unrepresented women and minorities are in the IT industry and the importance of helping more become part of this field. He believes that this is a unique school in the State and he saw the potential at ACE because of the culture and the energy and commitment the staff has and the relationships they have with students. Atrion has a lot of talent and experience that can be focused to help ACE become the



best school in the State. He then proceeded to walk the group through the presentation that outlines the MOU. Some items mentioned are listed below:

- Telecom Assessment (phone, internet) we don't have a lot and it is now adequate for our current needs.
- Infrastructure assessment (wiring, WIFI access points, servers, switches, etc) they
 have identified the needs and will come back to remediate and then help us plan for
 what we should have. They will also reach out to vendors to help us secure the right
 equipment.

Conversation ensued regarding the role Atrion will play at ACE and the involvement and the role the Board of Directors will play. Ms. Nichtern expressed her thanks on behalf of the Board and ACE team for this amazing partnership.

VII. Budget Update/Discussion

Mr. Dittmar shared balance sheet and revenue and expense reports for the period ending April 30, 2016. He walked the group through a high level overview of the financial reports and stated that the school is doing well in terms cash. He explained that we are in a good position in terms of cash.

Dr. Cirillo explained that he is waiting for the Medicare billing number and that the Providence School Board approved our consultant contracts. We need to do some paperwork to get our vendors paid from those funds. Ms. Nugent reminded the group that they will need to pass a provisional budget next month.

Mr. Dittmar also reviewed a sheet with a summary of the financial ratios that we have to track and meet. Overall we are approaching, meeting, or exceeding the standards.

VIII. Update Charter Legislation and an alleged miscalculation of the local share

Mr. Chiulli explained that there has not been much movement on the issues. We are waiting for the assembly to take action. Ms. Hague asked if there is any sense of the timeframe for this and Mr. Chiulli indicated that there is none.

Dr. Cirillo distributed and updated copy of the Action Toolkit for Board Members and two charts that display the projected loss per pupil due to the RIDE Calculation error and the loss based on the relative language of the current law. Ms. Hague mentioned the prior meeting discussion about publishing and op ed about the issue. Ms. Nichtern



expressed the need to focus that op ed piece on changing the conversation and educating the public on this issue. The group agreed we should continue to pursue this.

Dr. Cirillo mentioned that we have had 54 guest speakers/visitors to the school and that we have taken advantage of those opportunities to educate political and business leaders about the issues that we face and how they can help us deal with the barriers.

IX. Discussion/vote to convene Executive Session Pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5 (a)(2) - Sessions pertaining to litigation: Status of Request for Hearing against PPSD regarding the allocation of federal funds

Dr. Faye-Wolfe moved and Ms. Nichtern seconded a motion to convene executive session.

X. Discussion/Vote regarding potential formation of Board subcommittees
This item was postponed.

XI. Update regarding Head of School Contract Renewal

This item was postponed.

XII. Head of School Report

Dr. Cirillo distributed materials as part of his update. He mentioned that we have won a \$16K in-kind grant from EBEC for support in our classrooms and that we are in the process of finalizing and MOU with Roger Williams University.

He shared a copy of the 16-17 course listing and reviewed it with the group explaining how we are transitioning as we continue to implement our academic and CTE curriculum.

Ms. Ahlstrom provided an update of our fundraising efforts to date, the work with Roger Williams University students who are designing a new web site for the school, and distributed a list of 54 individuals who have been guest speakers or visitors to ACE this school year. She provided an overview of in-kind and cash raised to date through grants, events, and fundraising campaigns.



XIII. Other New Business

No other new business was discussed.

XIV. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was offered by Dr. Faye-Wolf and seconded by Mr. Jarrett. The motion passed by unanimous vote of all members present. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.